

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully traverses and requests reconsideration.

Claims 7 and 23 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 8-9 and 12 have been amended to correctly show their dependence upon a currently pending claim. Claim 1 has been amended to state that the each of the plurality of ports of the remote connector is "capable of receiving a peripheral component for communication with a remote processing unit." (Emphasis added). Applicant respectfully believes this amendment to merely add inherent language associated with the claim. Claim 1 has further been amended such that the wireless receiver is "capable of wirelessly receiving a wireless command from a remote device." (Emphasis added). Claims 10, 16 and 21 have been similarly amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-8, 21 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,802,010 to Kim et al. ("Kim"). Claims 4, 6, 9-10, 12-20, 22 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim.

Kim is directed to a multiple user computer system and a method for remote control of the system. (Title). Kim appears to be directed to a two-component environment: a computer system (300) and one or more remote control devices (400, 400' and 400"). (Col. 4, ll. 3-5; FIG. 1). The computer system appears to include a variety of components, including but not limited to, a host bus 310, a PCI bus 315, an ISA bus, a CPU 325, two or more bridges 335 and 345, a graphic controller 330, main memory 340, a BIOS 355 (presumably firmware and associated hardware), a super I/O, and a wireless receiving panel 380. (Col. 5, l. 59 -- Col. 6, l. 14; FIG. 5). The system 300 appears to support a coupling with a keyboard 100 as illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 5. However, it appears that the keyboard 100 is coupled to the system using a super I/O 360. (Fig. 5, Col. 6, ll. 27-30).

The non-remote wireless receiving panel 380 is described as part of the hardware layer 600 of computer system 300. (Col. 7, ll. 22-30; Fig. 8). The non-remote wireless receiving panel 380 of computer system 300 includes a micro-controller 380, an EEPROM 386 and a wireless receiver 382. (Fig. 8). The non-remote wireless receiving panel appears to communicate with the non-remote CPU 325 within system 300 using a variety of bridges 345 and 335 and other buses. (FIG. 5). Additionally, the non-remote wireless receiving panel 380 appears to be capable of receiving wireless signals transmitted from a remote control, e.g., remote control 400, using the wireless receiver 382. (Figs. 5 and 8, Col. 7, ll. 36-39). In response to the received wireless signals, the non-remote wireless receiving panel 380 performs a corresponding operation using its microcontroller 384 (e.g., detection of power state of system 300 and input of a power control signal to the system's system power manager 346). (Col. 7, ll. 38-43; Col. 8, ll. 18-24). Noticeably absent from Kim is any teaching or suggestion of: a remote connector comprising, among other things, a plurality of ports each capable of receiving a peripheral component for communication with a remote processing unit.

As to claim 1, the Office action identifies that:

(1) the claim's remote connector is taught by Kim's wireless receiving panel 380;

(2) the claim's remote connector includes a plurality of ports, each capable of receiving a peripheral component for communication with a remote processing unit is taught by Kim's keyboard controller 385, PCI-ISA bridge 345, wireless signal (presumably between remote control 400 and the wireless receiver 382), the GPIO 347, keyboard 100, remote 400 and CPU 325); and

(3) the claims' remote connector includes a wireless receiver capable of receiving a wireless command from a remote device is taught by Kim's wireless receiver 382. (Office action, pp. 2-3).

Applicant disagrees.

I. The wireless receiving panel 380 is not a remote connector.

Addressing first the claim's remote connector, Applicant respectfully notes that Kim is directed to a two-component or two-element environment consisting of a computer system 300 and a remote device 400. The cited wireless receiving panel 380 does not appear to be a remote connector for at least the reason that is a non-remote wireless receiving panel as described above. Applicant submits that the non-remote wireless receiving panel 380 is an integral component of system 300 as illustrated in FIGs. 5 and 6 and described throughout the Kim publication. (See e.g., Col. 4, ll. 3-12 describing the non-remote wireless receiving panel's 380 wireless receiving 382 as being part of computer system 300, Col. 5, l. 58 – Col. 6, l. 14, etc.). Applicant further supports this contention by noting that the non-remote wireless receiving panel 380 appears to be powered by the same power supply 390 as the remainder of system 300. (Col. 7, ll. 65-67, describing the power supply 390 of system 300 as powering the non-remote wireless panel 380). Accordingly, Applicant considers the non-remote wireless panel 380 as an integrated component of the system 300 and not analogous or similar to the claimed remote connector. For this reason alone, claim 1 is allowable over the cited publication.

II. The cited integral elements of Kim's system 300 are not analogous to the claimed plurality of ports capable of receiving a peripheral component for communication with a remote processing unit.

Addressing Applicant's plurality of ports of the remote connector, where each of the plurality of ports are capable of receiving a peripheral component for communication with a remote processing unit, Applicant first notes that the cited keyboard controller 385, PCI-ISA bridge 345 and wireless signals (presumably between remote control 400 and the wireless receiver 382) are neither analogous nor similar to a plurality of ports of a remote connector capable of receiving a peripheral component for communication with a remote processing unit. For instance, Kim describes the keyboard controller 385 as being part of the super I/O 360 and as

part of a the hardware layer 600 of system 300. (Col. 7, ll. 26-30). Thus, at least with respect to the cited keyboard controller 385, the contention of the Office action is improper for at least the reason that it is not even part of the same “thing” the Office action cites as Applicant’s claimed remote connector. Instead, the keyboard controller 385 of the super I/O 360 appears to be separate from the non-remote wireless receiver 380 of the system 300. For sake of completeness, Applicant further submits that the keyboard controller 385 of the super I/O 360 does not appear to be remote for the same reasons that the wireless receiving panel 380 is a non-remote wireless receiving panel. At best, the keyboard controller 385 of the super I/O 360 is an integral component of the system 300 capable of communication with a local processing unit, CPU 325.

The same arguments presented above apply equally to the PCI-ISA bridge 345 which is also described as part of the hardware layer 600 of system 300. (col. 7, ll. 26-30). Further, Applicant is unable to find any citation in the Office action or reference in Kim that explains how the PCI-ISA bridge 345 is a port of a remote connector capable of receiving a peripheral component for communication with a remote processing unit. At best, the PCI-ISA bridge 345 is an integral component of the system 300 capable of communicating with a local processing unit, CPU 325.

Addressing now the Office action’s contention that the wireless signal presumably between remote control 400 and the wireless receiver 382 is analogous to a port of a remote connector capable of receiving a peripheral component for communication with a remote processing unit, Applicant further reasserts the arguments presented above and notes that because the wireless receiver 382 is part of the non-remote wireless receiving panel 380 it is not a remote connector having a plurality of ports capable of receiving a peripheral component for

communication with a remote processing unit. At best, the wireless receiver 382 is an integral component of the system 300 capable of communicating with a local processing unit, CPU 325.

Therefore, because none of the cited components of Kim's system 300 are analogous or similar to Applicant's claimed plurality of ports of a remote connector where each is capable of receiving a peripheral component for communication with a remote processing unit, Applicant submits that the claim is allowable for this reason alone.

III. The Office action's rejection is inconsistent as the claimed peripheral component is not the same claim element as the claimed remote device; one of the plurality of ports is not the same claim element as the wireless receiver.

The Office action identifies the wireless signal presumably between remote control 400 and the wireless receiver 382 as teaching a port of a remote connector capable of receiving a peripheral component for communication with a remote processing unit. However, the Office action also identifies the wireless receiver 382 as the claimed wireless receiver capable of wirelessly receiving a wireless command from a remote device. These allegations are inconsistent because they improperly conflate the claim terms "peripheral component" and "remote device" into one-and-the-same "thing" or claim element and because they conflate the claim terms "plurality of ports" and "wireless receiver" into one-and-the-same "thing" or claim element.

For instance and for purposes of argument merely to show one inconsistency, if Kim's wireless signal between remote control 400 and the wireless receiver 382 teaches presumably one of a plurality of ports, which it does not, the wireless receiver 382 is presumably what the Office action intended to associate with Applicant's claimed plurality of ports However, the same rejection associates the wireless receiver 382 with Applicant's claimed wireless receiver.... Applicant notes that the claimed "plurality of ports" and "wireless receiver" are not one-and-the-

same claim element and therefore the same integral component of Kim's system 300 cannot each both elements.

Similarly and for purposes of argument merely to show another inconsistency, Applicant notes that the Office action, by associating the wireless receiver 382 of the non-remote wireless panel 380 with Applicant's claimed wireless receiver, the Office action appears to be associating the remote 400 with the "thing" in Kim that produces the wireless signal received by wireless receiver 382. However, the same rejection associates Kim's remote 400 with Applicant's claimed peripheral component. Applicant questions how the same remote 400 is analogous to both Applicant's claimed remote device and Applicant's claimed peripheral component when these claim terms constitute different claim elements.

Because the Office action employs an inconsistency in the current rejection, Applicant believes claim 1 is in proper condition for allowance.

Claim 21 contains the same or similar limitations as those presented above in the remarks with respect to claim 1. Therefore, for at least the same reasons, claim 21 is believed to be in proper condition for allowance.

Claims 2-6, 8-9 depend upon allowable claim 1. Claims 22 and 24 depend upon allowable claim 21. The aforementioned claims are further believed to contain additional novel, non-obvious and patentable subject matter. For at least these reasons and those identified with respect to claims 1 and 21, claims 2-6, 8-9, 22 and 24 are also believed to be allowable over the cited publication.

Claims 10 and 16 also contain the same or similar limitations as those presented above in the remarks with respect to claim 1. Therefore, for at least the same reasons, claims 10 and 16 are also believed to be in proper condition for allowance.

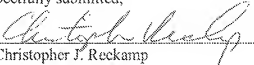
Claims 12-15 depend upon allowable claim 10. Claims 17-20 depend upon allowable claim 16. The aforementioned claims are further believed to contain additional novel, non-obvious and patentable subject matter. For at least these reasons and those identified above, claims 12-15 and 17-20 are also believed to be allowable over the cited publication.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the below listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application.

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